

With that said, some element and components can be shuffled, interchanged, or reconfigured to cause the invention to perform an identical or similar function; for example: Providers may incorporate an approval process or method to review and accept Customer requests to subscribe to one of their Channels (as opposed to allowing Customers to be subscribed automatically); Subscribed Customers can be grouped in different categories and managed separately based on their category; The same Channel can be maintained and managed for multiple Providers, so customers can subscribe to receive notifications from pre-selected Providers only or from any of the Providers. This could be appropriate when there are multiple Providers in a single office; Customer notifications can be sent out to each of the provided contact mechanisms (e.g., email & SMS/text) at the same time, or in a specific order (e.g., first a notification is sent via email, and then after some time via SMS/text message); Customer contact preferences can include a variety of different mechanisms (e.g., email, voice-calls, voice-mails, SMS/text message, instant message, etc.). A number of different methods of contact can be limited at the discretion of the Provider (e.g., how many email addresses or phone numbers can be allowed per each Customer); Customers can subscribe to receive or unsubscribe from receiving notifications using various devices and mechanisms, e.g., through websites, desktop apps, mobile device apps, Internet-of-things devices, etc.; Customer comments or preferences can be described with one or more parameters or attributes, such as urgency, specific days/weeks, or times of days, etc. The Customer parameters or preferences can be taken into account to exclude certain customers from receiving notifications depending on the context; Providers may use a set of parameters or attributes to differentiate Customers (e.g., based on the type of the product or service desired, or based on the Customer type). These parameters and preferences can be used to exclude certain Customers from receiving notifications at the discretion of the Provider, or to prioritize the order of notifications); Providers may impose a limit on how many Customers can subscribe to their Channel, for how long a Customer can subscribe to a Channel, or for how many Channels a Customer can subscribe to at the same time; Notifications can be sent out in a predetermined order (e.g., based on a Customer type and/or other factors), as opposed to all Customers being notified at the same time; Different verification and validation methods and processes can be employed to authenticate Customers or to verify their methods of contact (e.g., their phone numbers or their email addresses), e.g., when subscribing or unsubscribing; A Provider may publish their notifications on a public forum, e.g., on their website (thus not requiring Customers to be subscribed to be able to see notifications); Provider may opt to auction their offers, to allow their Customers to compete against each other; and/or Customers may opt to auction their interest to purchase a service or product to allow Providers to compete against each other.

A method of using the present invention may include the following: The system disclosed above may be provided. One or more Providers would setup Channels for different types of notifications. E.g., a Channel for notifications about last minute cancellations, a Channel for notifications about offers and promotions, a Channel for notifications about new research, developments, tips and recommendations. Customers would subscribe to one or more of the available Channels. The Provider would send notifications to subscribers of a specific Channel to communicate about relevant changes, updates or information. As a result, Providers

would send notifications to subscribers of a Channel without being required to make time-consuming and labor-intensive efforts to manually create and manage a list of subscribers, or to contact and engage with each of the interested Customers manually, one at a time. Customers would use this method and the system to receive notifications, without requiring time-consuming efforts to periodically contact their Provider repeatedly to inquire about status or the subject in which they are interested.

The invention can be implemented as a service or as a software product (e.g., desktop software or a mobile device app) through a website for use with an Internet browser, with mobile device apps or desktop apps. A Provider could potentially leverage artificial intelligence capabilities to automatically generate notifications or conduct research to analyze trends about rates of Customer subscriptions, or Customer responses to different types of notifications. The invention cannot be implemented with only a mechanical device. Software and a computing platform are required.

The computer-based data processing system and method described above is for purposes of example only and may be implemented in any type of computer system or programming or processing environment, or in a computer program, alone or in conjunction with hardware. The present invention may also be implemented in software stored on a computer-readable medium and executed as a computer program on a general purpose or special purpose computer. For clarity, only those aspects of the system germane to the invention are described, and product details well known in the art are omitted. For the same reason, the computer hardware is not described in further detail. It should thus be understood that the invention is not limited to any specific computer language, program, or computer. It is further contemplated that the present invention may be run on a stand-alone computer system or may be run from a server computer system that can be accessed by a plurality of client computer systems interconnected over an intranet network, or that is accessible to clients over the Internet. In addition, many embodiments of the present invention have application to a wide range of industries. To the extent the present application discloses a system, the method implemented by that system, as well as software stored on a computer-readable medium and executed as a computer program to perform the method on a general purpose or special purpose computer, are within the scope of the present invention. Further, to the extent the present application discloses a method, a system of apparatuses configured to implement the method are within the scope of the present invention.

It should be understood, of course, that the foregoing relates to exemplary embodiments of the invention and that modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for using one or more configurable data privacy parameters for providing notifications for a plurality of broadcast channels, the method comprising:

receiving, via one or more processors, one or more configurable data privacy parameters and a notification request associated with one or more broadcast channels, wherein the one or more configurable data privacy parameters (a) are input via an interactive user interface by a customer, the interactive user interface executing on a customer computing entity associated with the customer, (b) define contact information associated with the customer, and (c) identify the customer computing entity associated with the customer;